



Date of Application, 24th Dec., 1895

Complete Specification Left, 10th June, 1896—Accepted, 11th July, 1896

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or applicable to Railway Time Tables.

I, CLARANCE ARTHUR BIRD, of 92 Crouch Hill, London, N., Artist, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

My invention relates to platform time tables, pocket time tables, time tables for use in private houses, illuminated time tables and all other patterns of railway time tables in which it is desirable to announce in the clearest possible manner more or less complicated train services. For this purpose I provide a requisite number of tablets of any convenient shape or pattern distinguished by various colours from one another, the said colours corresponding to the same colour of tablet or board giving the title of the service in such a manner that a distinctive colour sign or 5 design is appropriated to each distinct line or service of trains announced on the time table. Colours may also be appropriated to announce special trains, excursion trains, or other trains not running in the regular daily course.

In time tables, such as pocket tables and the like, the tablets may be replaced by suitably coloured spaces, or the times of the trains may be printed upon coloured 15 slips, and attached to the time table, but for railway station purposes I usually prefer to form the table with a number of slots or recesses into which the requisite tablets can be inserted or secured.

The tablets may be made of any suitable material, preferably of slips of wood, cardboard, tin-plate or the like, suitably painted, coloured, or enamelled.

20 For use in dark railway stations or other positions in which it may be desirable, I may form my table as a transparency, the front being composed of a sheet of glass or the like with means for holding the tablets in place, the tablets themselves being formed of coloured glass or its equivalent, with the times of the trains painted or impressed thereon. Behind this transparency light is arranged so as to render the 25 same visible at all times.

In addition to the use of my invention on the platforms of railway stations, waiting rooms, and other public places, it forms a convenient reference tablet for use in private dwellings or other buildings, especially, where owing to frequent changes of trains it is requisite frequently to alter the time table correspondingly. 30 By my invention this can be effected with the greatest ease, the movable tablet being replaced by one bearing the corrected time of the train to which it refers. In the case of printed time tables I prefer to substitute for the movable tablets, coloured strips, on which the figures corresponding to the respective trains can be printed or marked in any suitable manner, or I may print upon the surface of the 35 time table coloured spaces corresponding to the portions devoted to the given train or trains, and subsequently impress thereon the figures relating thereto. The time tables prepared in this manner and those devised for use as pocket time tables may obviously be combined in any desired manner with advertising or other announcements. They may also contain information other than merely the starting times of 40 the respective trains.

Dated this 20th day of December 1895.

W. P. THOMPSON & Co.,
31, High Holborn, London, W.C., Patent Agents for the Applicant.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or applicable to Railway Time Tables.

I, CLARANCE ARTHUR BIRD, of 92, Crouch Hill, London, N., Artist, do hereby declare the nature of this invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

My invention relates to platform time tables, pocket time tables, time tables 5 for use in private houses, illuminated time tables and all other patterns of railway time tables in which it is desirable to announce in the clearest possible manner more or less complicated train services. For this purpose I provide a requisite number of tablets of any convenient shape or pattern distinguished by various colours or patterns from one another, the said colours or patterns corresponding to the same colour of tablet or board giving the title of the service in such a manner that a distinctive colour, sign, or design is appropriated to each distinct line or service of trains announced on the time table. Colours may also be appropriated to announce special trains, excursion trains, or other trains not running in the regular daily course. 10 15

In time tables, such as pocket tables and the like, the tablets may be replaced by suitably coloured or marked spaces, or the times of the trains may be printed upon coloured slips, attached to the time table, but for railway station purposes I usually prefer to form the table with a number of slots or recesses into which the requisite tablets can be inserted or secured. 20

The tablets may be made of any suitable material, preferably of slips of wood, cardboard, tin-plate or the like, suitably painted, coloured, or enamelled.

For use in dark railway stations or other positions in which it may be desirable, I may form my table as a transparency, the front being composed of a sheet of glass or the like with means for holding the tablets in place, the tablets themselves being formed of coloured glass or its equivalent, with the times of the trains painted or impressed thereon. Behind this transparency light is arranged so as to render the same visible at all times. 25 30

In addition to the use of my invention on the platforms of railway stations, waiting rooms, and other public places, it forms a convenient reference tablet for use in private dwellings or other buildings, especially, where owing to frequent changes of trains it is requisite frequently to alter the time table correspondingly. By my invention this can be effected with the greatest ease, the movable tablet being replaced by one bearing the corrected time of the train to which it refers. In the case of printed time tables I prefer to substitute for the movable tablets, 35 coloured strips, on which the figures corresponding to the respective trains can be printed or marked in any suitable manner, or I may print upon the surface of the time table coloured spaces corresponding to the portions devoted to the given train or trains, and impress thereon the figures relating thereto. The time tables prepared in this manner and those devised for use as pocket time tables may 40 obviously be combined in any desired manner with advertising or other announcement. They may also contain information other than merely the starting times of the respective trains. 45

In order more clearly to describe my invention and illustrate the best method known to me of carrying the same into effect I will now describe it with reference to the accompanying drawing in which I have represented by way of example a specimen time table for trains in one direction at one station and in which different colours are indicated by different shading of the various tablets which are also differentiated by various forms and marks thereon. The tablets are divided into seven groups marked respectively A, B, C, D, E and F according 50

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as the trains run on different lines or to different stations or part of the way only involving a change of carriage. By further variations express trains may be differentiated from stopping trains also when used for up line trains they could clearly indicate the different termini to which the trains run, and for country 5 stations the place at which the train ends its journey. The figures inscribed on each tablet show the time of departure of the respective train. The application of the system will be sufficiently clear from this diagram and may be varied according as one or more lines are included on one table or for up or down lines as required.

10 I also reserve the right to apply my invention to indicating destinations of train cars and other public vehicles.

I may construct several tables combined and placed in a frame in such manner that any one, or the whole successively, may be displayed as required. The tables are moved by hand or by clockwork or other automatic mechanism.

15 Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is :—

1. The improved adjustable and transposable indicating tablets for railway time tables and the like substantially as described.
- 20 2. The improved system of time table indicator devised to show graphically the destination, route, time of starting and other particulars of each train or vehicle substantially as described.

Dated this 3rd day of June 1896.

25 W. P. THOMPSON & Co.,
322, High Holborn, London, W.C., Patent Agents for the Applicant.